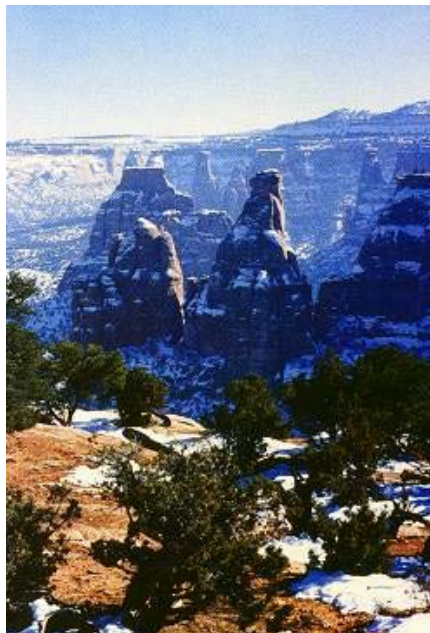


IV. B. 12. National Monuments

- a) Background. The National Monument System was originally established under the National Park System to recognize areas of the United States with particularly distinctive visual, recreational, and cultural interest though on somewhat less of a grandiose scale than designated National Parks. There are presently six National Monuments designated within the State of Colorado. National Monuments are managed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service.



Colorado National Monument

Proposed Rural Development actions in or near such areas merit special evaluation because of the sensitivity of the resources within them and their national prominence.

- b) Governing Regulations.
- (1) National Park System General Authorities Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 825), as amended.
 - (2) National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (92 Stat. 3518, 16 U.S.C. 1a-5).
 - (3) U.S. Executive Order 11514, Protection and Enhancement of Environmental Quality.
 - (4) National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321.
 - (5) Title 7, Part 1b and 1c, Code of Federal Regulations, U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Environmental Policy Act.
- c) Policy. Rural Development should not authorize, fund, or carry out any proposal or project which would adversely affect the unique values and benefits of designated or nominated



National Monuments. Whenever a proposed action is determined to have the potential for impacting a National Monument, the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, should be consulted as early in the environmental impact analysis process as possible to evaluate the possible consequences and protection requirements concerning the action.

d) Classification.

(1) Designated.

e) Agency Jurisdiction. Following is the expert agency contact for the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Intermountain Regional Office:

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Intermountain Region
P.O. 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

Contact: Hal Grovert, Superintendent, Colorado Plateau and Rocky Mountain
Clusters, (303) 969-2800

http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/imfa.htm

f) Location of Resource. Five National Monuments are presently designated within the State of Colorado:

Colorado National Monument: 3 miles southwest of Grand Junction. Sheer-walled canyons, towering monoliths, dinosaur fossils, and remains of prehistoric Native American cultures reflect the environment and history of this colorful sandstone country. Approximately 20,000 acres as of this writing.

Dinosaur National Monument: 18 miles north of Dinosaur. Spectacular canyons were cut by the Green and Yampa Rivers through unfolded mountains. A quarry contains fossil remains of dinosaurs and other ancient animals. Approximately 211,000 acres as of this writing.

Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument: 3 miles south of Florissant. A wealth of fossil insects, seeds, and leaves of the Oligocene Period are preserved here in remarkable detail. Here, too, is an unusual display of standing petrified sequoia stumps. Approximately 6,000 acres as of this writing.

Hovenweep National Monument: 25 miles west of Cortez (also in Utah). Pre-Columbian Native Americans built these 6 groups of towers, pueblos, and cliff dwellings. Approximately 800 acres are in Colorado and Utah as of this writing.



Yucca House National Monument: 5 miles east of Cortez. Ruins of these large, prehistoric Native American pueblos are as yet not fully excavated. (Not open to the general public.) Approximately 10 acres as of this writing.

g) Other References.

(1) National Park Service

(Web-site for Colorado National Monument)

<http://www.nps.gov/colm/>

(2) National Park Service

(Web-site for Dinosaur National Monument)

<http://www.nps.gov/dino/>

(3) National Park Service

(Web-site for Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument)

<http://www.nps.gov/flfo/>

(5) National Park Service

(Web-site for Hovenweep National Monument)

<http://www.nps.gov/hove/>

(6) National Park Service

(Web-site for Yucca House National Monument)

<http://www.nps.gov/yuho/>